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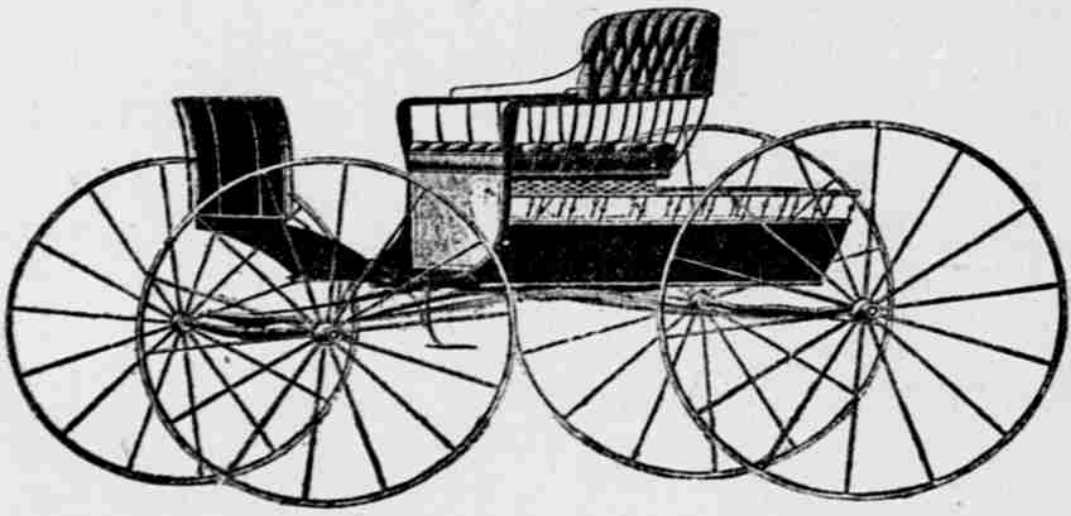
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THE WILCOX SCHOOL BILL

Strongly Opposed By the Board of Education.

The Board of Education has taken the initiative in the agitation against the several ridiculous bills introduced in Congress recently by Delegate Wilcox. At a meeting yesterday morning the Board of Education decided to enter an emphatic protest against the adoption of the school measure recently introduced, and adopted the form of a memorial, of which 1,000 copies will be printed to be forwarded to members of the Senate and House of Representatives.

The protest, in opening, says: "The Department of Public Instruction, having the management and control of all public schools in the Territory of Hawaii, feel bound to enter a respectful but most earnest protest against the passage of this bill or any bill of a similar character. The objections to the proposed legislation are of two kinds: (1) No such legislation is needed, nor in fact any legislation concerning school matters on the part of Congress. (2) If any legislation were needed the bill introduced by Delegate Wilcox would accomplish no good result."

The protest then goes on to state in detail the sufficiency of the present school system in the Territory, saying: "This system was originally the work of some of the ablest of the men who made their homes here during the first half of the nineteenth century, and has been carefully developed and built up to fit peculiar local conditions. Like all systems of human devising, the Hawaiian school system is capable of further advance and improvement as experience may show the same to be desirable and profitable. But such advance should be made on the lines already wisely laid down by those who were and are thoroughly familiar with existing conditions. A radical reorganization of our school system, however well meant, could only result in grave disaster to the educational interests of the Territory."

A lengthy historical sketch of the Hawaiian school system, dealing with all phases of the local education is here given. Then follows statistics showing the nationality of the students, enrollment, cost, buildings, etc.

Further facts are given showing tuition at present to be absolutely free, English being the only language taught; compulsory educational features, regulation of teachers' salaries, absence of color prejudice, party politics, etc.

In conclusion, the defects of the proposed law are pointed out, as follows: "To criticize in detail the provisions of the measure under consideration would be an almost endless task, and is believed to be unnecessary. The bill is of great length, consisting of over 180 pages, and almost every page fairly bristles with provisions uncalled for, and in most instances, wholly impracticable; provisions that, even if enacted into law, could not be put into operation. To a few, only, of these matters will attention now be called."

1. It may be stated in a general way that the bill is drawn in absolute ignorance, or of utter indifference to existing conditions—moral, social, historical, educational, political and statutory.

2. It is in many points directly in conflict, not only with existing Hawaiian statutes, but with the organic act as well. To make its provisions at all workable, would require a radical revision of the whole body of our statute law.

3. It assumes the existence of counties, townships, municipalities, and other political and administrative units that do not now, and never did form any part of our governmental system.

4. It provides for a large number of additional officials, most of whom would have to be paid, thus dividing responsibility, weakening efficiency, and adding largely to the cost of maintaining the school system.

5. It would break up entirely the present uniformity in the examinations and the grade of scholarship required.

6. It would do away entirely with the present salary schedule, and with a schedule under which a great reduction in the amount of schooling to be provided in the course of a year; a reduction amounting in some cases to nearly one-half.

7. It appears to contemplate, and certainly authorize, a great reduction in the amount of schooling to be provided in the course of a year; a reduction amounting in some cases to nearly one-half.

8. It would work greatly to the disadvantage of the smaller and poorer districts, not only diminishing the quantity, but still more impairing the quality of the teaching required.

9. It provides a way of receiving, handling and disbursing school funds that is not only contrary to all sound business principles, but is in direct conflict with the elaborate and carefully prepared provisions of the audit act, which act controls all matters pertaining to the handling of Territorial funds.

Further facts and arguments in support of the position taken in this matter by the department could be presented almost indefinitely, but it is hoped that the foregoing are sufficient to show two things:

"First—That there is no 'emergency' whatever calling for Congressional action, and

"Second—That the passage of the bill now pending would create an emergency of the gravest character, would throw our entire school system into disorder, and deal to the cause of education in these islands the severest blow it has ever received."

Police Items.
Burglars broke into Waller's stall at the fish market some time Tuesday night or yesterday morning, and carried away a box of oranges, several bunches of bananas and a couple dozen bottles of jelly.

The cases of Nishiyama and Ah Wa went over until this morning. They were the men arrested Tuesday on a charge of robbery.

The serious charge against J. W. Hall was nolle prossed yesterday in the police court, and a new and graver charge preferred, in which his bail was fixed at \$500. His case was before the grand jury yesterday.

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Single bed sheets, hemstitched, at 90c.
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Hem-stitched, 36x45, at 30c each.

All the above goods displayed in our show windows and prices plainly marked.

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While the prices of these matting are far below what they have ever been offered at before, we have not yet disposed of the whole stock, as is our intention, so extend the sale for another week. You can't afford to miss this sale: the matting are at actual cost.

ANY MATTING, Five different patterns, heavy weight, at the extremely low price of \$6.50 per roll of 40 yards. A FINER LOT—All linen wool, fancy patterns of the newest designs. A large variety of patterns and colors, at \$10.50 per roll. Special prices will be made on lots of five rolls or more.

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